



Atty. Dkt. No. 023971-0642

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Jean Michel MARTIN et al.

Title: **LOW-FRICTION SLIDING MECHANISM, LOW-FRICTION AGENT COMPOSITION AND METHOD OF FRICTION REDUCTION**

Appl. No.: 10/567,139

International Filing Date: 08/06/2004

371(c) Date: 02/06/2006

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: 3682

Confirmation Number: 8913

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56**

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56.

A copy of each non-U.S. patent document and each non-patent document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The USPTO has waived the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(iii) to submit copies of cited pending applications which are stored in the USPTO's Image File Wrapper (IFW) system. Applications filed on or after June 30, 2003, and international applications that have entered the national stage on or after June 30, 2003, have been or are being scanned into the IFW system. Accordingly, copies of these types of documents are not being supplied

in connection with this application. Reference is being made to OG Notice dated October 19, 2004, *Waiver of the Copy Requirement in 37 CFR 1.98 for Cited Pending U.S. Patent Applications.*

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

Documents A31, A509 and 512 were cited in an Office Action dated August 17, 2007 in a counterpart Chinese application. The Chinese Patent Office made certain characterizations of the references. The disclosure of these characterizations should not be construed as an admission of or agreement to the opinions expressed in the Chinese Office Action. A copy of the Chinese Office Action is attached herewith.

Document A716 is a doctoral dissertation entitled "Tribological Properties of Hydrogenated and Hydrogen-Free Diamond-Like Carbon Coatings."

The documents listed in the table below are related U.S. applications:

<u>Inventor</u>	<u>Serial No.</u>	<u>Publication/Patent No.</u>	<u>Publication/Grant Date</u>
Kano et al.	2004/0241448		12-02-2004
Nishimura et al.	2004/0242435		12-02-2004
Okamoto et al.	2005/0025975		02-02-2005
Takao et al.	2005/0082139		04-21-2005
Martin et al.	2006/0263604		11-23-2006
Hamada et al.	2005/0035222		02-17-2005
Nishimura et al.	2005/0242435		12-02-2004
Nishimura et al.	2005/0005892		01-13-2005
Nishimura et al.	2005/0098134		05-12-2005
Hamada et al.	2005/0089685		04-28-2005
Hamada et al.	2005/0100701		05-12-2005
Martin et al.	2005/0064196		03-24-2005
Murata et al.	2005/0037879		02-17-2005
Nishimura et al.	2005/0061291		03-24-2005
Okamoto et al.	2006/0093839		05-04/2006
Matsui et al.	2006/0207540		09-21-2006
Miyake et al.	6,844,068		01-18-2005
Shirahama et al.	6,806,242		10-19-2004
Hamada et al.	6,886,521		05-03-2005
Konishi et al.	6,969,198		11-29-2005
Mabuchi et al.	7,086,362		08-08-2006
Nakamura et al.	7,146,956		12-12-2006
Hamada et al.	7,255,083		08-14-2007
Miyake et al.	7,273,655		09-25-2007
Hamada et al.	7,228,786		06-12-2007
Nishimura et al.	7,284,525		10-23-2007
Ueno et al.	7,134,381		11-14-2006
Ueno et al.	10/911,741		Abandoned

The remaining documents were cited in the related U.S. applications listed above.

The complete record of these application should be readily available to the Examiner on their desktop. The majority of the remaining documents were identified during a literature search conducted on Applicants' behalf. The results of the literature search, which include the search strategy and, where available, English language titles and abstracts, are cited here as document A715.

If the undersigned can assist the Examiner in connection with the Examiner's review of the documents cited in this Information Disclosure Statement, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Applicants respectfully request that each listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Although Applicant believes that no fee is required for this Request, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Request to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date December 19, 2007

By PDS

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